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LAMBDA

PROUDLY SERVING THE LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY SINCE 1961

Airbandz raises \$15,000 for cancer research

BY MATTHEW MOSKAL
A&E EDITOR

Fraser Auditorium has served as a venue for a handful of unique visitors over the years. The stage has held the weight of bands, comedians, and prestigious public speakers as they catered verbally to an enthusiastic audience. The pull of a visiting source of entertainment is remarkable. However on the night of February 10th, students of SSR, U/C and Huntington College instigated some of the loudest applause heard on campus so far this year. The event was Airbandz, and the reception was fantastic.

Airbandz has always been an event exclusive to U/C and SSR, but this year Huntington College contributed two groups into the fray. Collectively, seven groups put up their creative dukes in an effort to entertain and raise money for cancer. The performers paid tribute to such popular artists as Nelly Furtado, the Village People, David Bowie, and many more. Each group showed high levels of energy through co-ordinated dance sequences and bold stage presence. Well thought out costume designs and interchangeable set pieces helped give viewers an aesthetically pleasing experience. Acts included the shining glam rock sparkles of Ziggy Stardust, the flag waving flamboyant fun of the New Recruits, Desperado's suave Latin salsa dancing, the tights clad Table Five, and others. Each performance did whatever possible to keep the crowd on their toes throughout the night.

The excitement was kept alive between acts by the always charming Joshua 'Jova' Hatt and his new co-host Camille Baguio. Their hijinks fortunately were not obscured by the lasting applause and reactions following each group's musical endeavours. Their banter was both witty and constructive in keeping the



Matthew Desrosiers / LAMBDA

The 'N' crew, seen above, took first place with their Airband compilation of Nelly Furtado songs. The group contributed their cash prize back to the charity, increasing the total amount raised in the event to \$15,000. This years event raised more money than in years past, to the pleasant surprise of event organizers, performers and charity representatives.

evening's pace flowing and the crowd entertained. However, behind the scenes, even more hands were pushing to keep things together.

Thanks to the passionate commitments of organizer Cora Villhauer and her team of dedicated volunteers, the Airbandz tradition lived up to its predecessors in terms of entertainment. Villhauer admits that there was some degree of difficulty in completing the task for her second year in a row, but the help was what she'd hoped it was.

"There are all the little things

to get done that add up," she said, "but having a committee really helps with that."

Their efforts certainly helped create one of the most entertaining spectacles to grace the Fraser Auditorium in the past year. Villhauer admits that the event keeps the butterflies in her stomach in flight.

"I love seeing the whole thing come together and the groups and hosts perform," claimed Villhauer. "It is a lot of fun to watch and you can see that the groups, hosts and audience are having fun, which makes it

more exciting for me."

And it certainly was exciting. The combined efforts of each group helped raise over \$15,000 for cancer research, which is a significantly larger sum than in previous years. This was an overwhelmingly large surprise for everyone.

"I think the biggest surprise was the amount earned," admitted a gleeful Villhauer. "I thought last years was high but this year was even better. It is really good to see everyone working together for a great cause and the amount of effort that everyone puts into it

really shows by the amount of money that was raised and the groups who performed for the event."

Next year, Airbandz will continue its run under new management. There's no telling what will happen with the program in different hands, but that's part of the appeal. There's the thrill of the unexpected, a noble cause, and a few dozen laughs along the way, all coming together as one of the most exciting nights of the school year.

Laurentian faces imminent space crisis

BY ALEXANDRA TAYLOR
ASSISTANT EDITOR

As with any growing university, space has become a limited resource at Laurentian. Demands for space have led to conflicts and tension between student groups and the administration, resulting in lock-outs, press conferences and in one case, legal action.

Most consider the computer labs on campus to be essential resources, and having an accessible and available place to do work and readings is high on the priority list of any student. The school has a number of labs available to students, including a handful of 24 hour rooms. However, students still expressed their disappointment when they found out this month that C105 in the Classroom building was

closed and the computers were removed. According to correspondence between Susan Silverton, the Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Richard Paquette, the President of LAMPS, the space was cleared out after a survey done of the usage of all the computer spaces on campus. According to Silverton, the survey demonstrated that the students preferred to use the computers in the Library Commons area. She explained in the correspondence that plans are being put into place to put more computers where students are accessing them most often. Students who were asked about the availability expressed their dissatisfaction with the amount of computers currently available. 4th year student Eric Lefebvre noted that finding free computers

was a difficult task, and he stated that he also had a problem with the fact that MSN messenger is installed on the library computers, leading to students who use the Library Commons to socialize rather than work. 3rd year students Emmanuel Fellows and Kayla Turpin both expressed that they have often found themselves searching for free computers in the library, and Kayla mentioned that she often heads from the library to C104 in an attempt to find available space.

According to Jeff Sutton, the Director of Computer Services, the computers that have been removed from C105 are still on campus and will be moving shortly into other areas of the school. Sutton explained that a Computer Lab review committee that will be working to modernize

the labs and better meet the needs of students. He believes that this will lead to upgrades of all the lab equipment as well as creating more seating space as well as traditional lab space.

The most controversial space issue seems to be the Laurentian Association of Mature and Part time students. LAMPS currently resides in A127 in the bowling alley on the main floor of the Arts building and has been asked to move out of their space by the university administration. President of LAMPS Richard Paquette has been extremely vocal about his board's disagreement with the request, and he believes that LAMPS' placement in such a high traffic area is essential to the accessibility of the organization.

According to Paquette, the

way that the administration has gone about this change has been unprofessional and unacceptable. He feels very strongly that the decision to move LAMPS from their current space was made without any consultation with himself or the board, and that the options presented to his organization have not been reasonable. The space that Susan Silverton, VP of Academics, proposed to Paquette was in SCE232, on the same floor as the SGA, AEF and other student organizations. Paquette was given the opportunity to explore the space and informed Silverton that he was not satisfied and that it would be a "tough sell" to the LAMPS council. No specific timelines were given but through correspondence with Silverton, it was

(continued on page 10)

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WRITE TO US

Include your full name and student number. Please keep articles to a maximum of 700 words. Lambda reserves the right to edit for content considered sexist, racist, homophobic, heterosexual, for length, or legal purposes. Letters of a harassing or slanderous nature will be dealt with by the proper authorities.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS

Please e-mail submissions to lambda@laurentian.ca. Ensure the file is saved as TEXT or Word, as other files may not be transferable to Mac format. To be considered for print, all submissions must have your name and student number.

EDITOR'S CORNER

Ten tips for camping in the cold weather

BY KAYLA TURPIN
CONTRIBUTOR

I slept outside for 6 days in -25 weather to protest tuition fee increases. To quickly convert that for those who don't speak Canadian, that's -14 F. Some things I learned from sleeping outside for a week (so now you too can sleep outside to protest various causes!):

10 Things You Need to Know About Camping Outside:

1. Spooning is key. So key that the school newspaper quoted me as saying, "spooning is key". Girls lose body heat faster than guys, so it's a good idea to spoon in a boy-girl-boy-girl fashion. Not only will this keep you warm, but it allows you to throw your inhibitions aside and cuddle with that cute boy/girl under the guise of warmth!

2. Your Nalgene will be your best friend. It's important to stay hydrated, so it's good to keep a full Nalgene nearby. Also, at night, boil some water over the fire and fill your Nalgene with hot water to act as a hot water bottle in your sleeping bag!

3. As much fun as the teepee looks, it's not a great place to sleep. One night during our great camp-out, someone thought it would be a good idea to bring the woodstove in the teepee and sleep in there. However, halfway through the night the fire went out and the teepee was much too large to remain warm with just the body heat of the few people inside. The people in the prospector tent suffered as well, as there were not enough people in the prospector tent to generate enough body heat to keep everyone warm as they were all in the teepee.

4. People are incredibly giving when they know students are



Alexandra Taylor / LAMBDA

During the Freeze for Fees protest wherein students camped outside for seven days, Kayla Turpin gathered the experience needed to put together this list of tips.

freezing at the brink of death. Every night people brought us food. At one point, Radicchio's brought us a pasta dinner!

5. The smell of campfire will remain on your clothes for at least 10 days after leaving said campfire. This results in the nickname "smokey" for the rest of the semester.

6. When sleeping in the prospector tent, avoid sleeping right next to the door, as it is the coldest spot in the entire tent. On the same note, it's not worth fighting with a friend over the middle even though you totally can't save a spot using a blanket.

This will result in name-calling and harsh words.

7. If there is a small number of people (2-4) sleeping outside, it is wise to split up and sleep in the smaller camping tents as it takes less body heat to warm up.

8. Nap nap nap! Once you get a terrible, restless night sleep outside in the freezing cold, go inside and take a 4 hour nap in

your warm bed!

9. Anything and everything tastes good roasted over a campfire. This includes, but is not limited to, donuts, pizza, marshmallows, and wine.

10. Layers, layers, and more layers will keep you warm. AVOID COTTON. Cotton will absorb sweat and make you colder. Polyester is your friend.

Letter to the Editor:

Dear members of the Board of Governors' of Laurentian University:

I attended the the Board of Governors' meeting on Friday. I was outraged that the Board decided to raise tuition fees for all full-time undergraduate programs by 4% and for all graduate programs by 8% for new students, and by 4% for returning students. This was done despite all the Student Associations and the Laurentian University Faculty Association being unanimously opposed to these tuition fee increases. Students and faculty are the majority of the university community so what does this say about democracy at Laurentian University?

As a professor at the university I know what these tuition fee increases mean for students. It means more students going into major debt; it means more students having to resort to multiple part-time jobs to try to afford university and therefore often being too tired to be able to deal with classes and assignments; it means more promising students having to drop out of their programs because they can no longer afford to continue their studies; it means more exclusionary pressure on students from poorer and working class backgrounds. It is especially outrageous for me that fees for new graduate students are being raised by 8% at the same time we are being asked to expand our MA programs next year to meet targets set by the

provincial government for funding for the next 20 years. This major increase will make it far more difficult to expand the number of MA students coming into Laurentian next year.

I also want to raise a question of process and the legitimacy of the rump Board meeting that was held in the President's Office. When the BOG meeting was adjourned because of student protests not all of the voting and non-voting members of the Board were informed of the meeting in the President's office and a number left. On such an important question is it not important to allow for the maximum amount of input into the decision making process?

I was struck by the lack of representation of students and faculty on the BOG. At the same time I noticed that Mr. Mike Romaniuk, Vice-President, Sudbury Operations for Xstrata Nickel, was welcomed onto the board. When I looked around the room I could not see any representatives of the many unions in Sudbury or representatives of people living in poverty. Perhaps this is why many BOG members did not seem to want to listen to the powerful arguments against raising tuition fees put forward by student representatives.

Yours sincerely,

Gary Kinsman,
Professor of Sociology,
Laurentian University

Job hunting made easy

BY PATRICK THIBEAULT
PLACEMENT CENTRE

Being a student myself and not being a native of Sudbury (therefore having no connections), I know how hard it can be to find a good summer job. So we've thought of something brilliant here in the Placement Centre.

On Tuesday, March 13th from 10 to 3 we'll be hosting the Summer Job Fair in the Bowling Alley. At least 500 summer jobs will be available! From international volunteering opportunities, to tree planting, government jobs and hundreds of local summer jobs, we've got it all. Now how easy is that!

But there's a catch. There won't be any company representatives present in the Bowling

Alley. Why? you ask. Well, my fellow student, we want to cram as many opportunities into one space as possible. So, in other words, the Summer Job Fair will be like a one day super extension of the Placement Centre. There will be tables specific to various fields plus stations for job search sites such as Workopolis and Monster. The Placement Centre staff will be there to help you find the perfect summer job.

So make sure to come down to the Bowling Alley on Tuesday, March 13th between 10 and 3. Come explore the hundreds of opportunities and how easy we can make it for you to find summer employment!

See you then!

SPACE FOR RANT

How exactly do you submit a piece for Space For Rant... it's easy! Email us at lambda@laurentian.ca, call us at (705) 673-6548, or drop us a letter in the mail at SCE 301 Student

Centre, Laurentian University, Sudbury, ON P3E 2C6. Remember: Lambda is the voice of the students. Make sure your voice is heard.

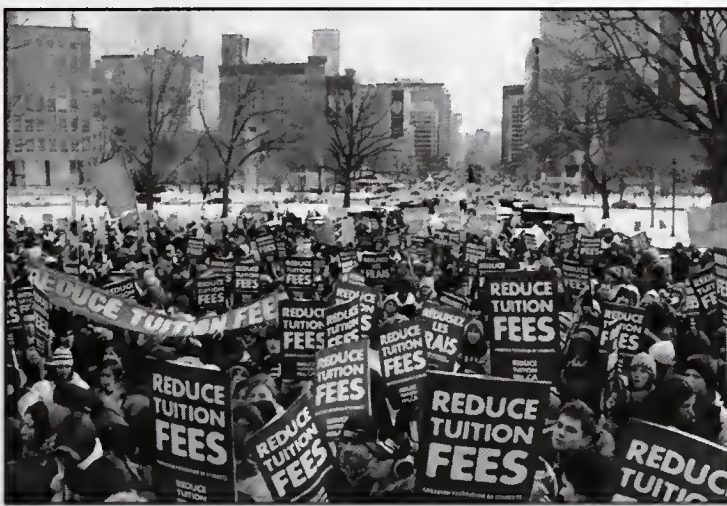
OPINIONS

National Day of Action brings students together in protest

BY ALEXANDRA TAYLOR
ASSISTANT EDITOR

After an impressive day of protest in Sudbury on February 6, Laurentian students traveled down to Toronto on February 7 to participate in the National Day of Action against tuition fees. After a 5 hour bus ride, students converged on Convocation Hall at U of T and marched to Queen's Park. They were joined by students from across Ontario, including representatives from Trent, Brock, UofT, York, OCAD, Ryerson and surrounding colleges and professional schools. Northern Ontario was well represented at the rally and Laurentian students stood proudly among their peers and protested for their right to affordable education.

Students were treated to a number of speakers over the course of the rally, including CFS Ontario chairperson Jesse



Joel De Chevigny / CONTRIBUTOR

Ontario students gather at Queen's Park in Toronto to protest the recent increases in tuition fees.

Greener who helped to MC the event. Ontario NDP leader Howard Hampton was the only provincial leader who showed up to speak to the crowd, and CUPE

Ontario leader Sid Ryan came to discuss the importance of affordable education and the impact that it has on the public workforce. Participants also had the

opportunity to hear a spoken word poem by Kamisha Cox as well as a live performance by Kardinal Offishall, who also discussed his experiences as a student at York University.

Do these protests really make a difference? In 2004, the tuition freeze was put into place because of student demand, and current students believe that these rallies and protests will help to pressure the government to keep tuition freezes in place. Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec and B.C. all have tuition fee freezes or caps and still have fully functioning higher education systems. The last 15 years have seen a tuition increase of almost 300% and the next four years will see tuition increase another 20% or more. These illogical and unnecessary increases are making most students feel as though they are being dissuaded instead of encouraged to attend post-secondary. Supporters will say that

undergraduate fees are "only" going up by \$190, but students know that that amount often means the difference between grocery shopping and visiting the food bank – This isn't money that most students can afford to lose.

Recent public opinion polls have demonstrated that over 80% of Ontarians feels that the tuition fee increase will restrict access to education, and many people also believe that Dalton McGuinty has broken his election promise by canceling the fee freeze after only 2 years. Tuition has increased far more quickly than inflation but the quality of education, including professor-student ratios have not been improved, and in some cases have only gotten worse. The February 7 Day of Action and the protests and rallies that were held before and after were a plea from students to the Ontario government: Our right to affordable education is being threatened by increasing tuition – reduce the fees!

The flip side of the tuition debate

BY PAUL BARNES
CONTRIBUTOR

The February 8 issue of Lambda included many articles on the rise of student tuition. Obviously, this issue is important to present students, along with future ones, because it directly affects us. In some ways, I am glad to see that students are becoming interested in politics and that they are becoming aware of the legitimate methods through which they, as citizens, can work towards the common good. However, in this case, I believe that they are wrong by demanding that the government regulate tuition fees.

There are some compelling arguments against such regulation. While this letter is not an exhaustive list, I hope that some readers will question their commitment to this cause.

First, students need to ask themselves what they want out of a university education. More pointedly, what is a university for? The rise of the modern university was based upon the idea of a classical education, which included science, history, philosophy, literature, and language. Formal education was broad in scope. Today, however, education is becoming ever more specialized and fragmented. This is primarily because of the

increased information that science has provided to the modern world. In our technologically driven society, scientific research is starting to become the emphasis of many universities, particularly the elite schools.

Yet, it is this very trend that is undermining the value of our education. True, attending university gives us plenty of information, but it is not providing us with knowledge. Basically, are students today attending university because they wish to better themselves through greater understanding, or are they merely coming to Laurentian to get a job? I believe that the majority of students are here for the latter.

This is a problem. It is a problem because it promotes ignorance and, even worse, it infantilizes us. Associated with this phenomenon is the uncritical acceptance of our prevailing culture and, quite frankly, moral idiocy. We are at a point where technology is rushing past our ability to morally comprehend it. Biotechnology, genetic engineering, and climate change all are new challenges that we are facing, yet few can describe the moral implications of any of these things.

Fundamentally, we are not being educated. We are being given information; lots of information. But we cannot process it.

We are like a 486 computer trying to run Windows Vista.

However, there are less abstract reasons to reject the calls for tuition freezes. As the late economist Milton Friedman believed, monopolies are bad. They benefit the least amount of people and hamper growth. This includes government monopoly in education. Two prominent economists, Judge Richard Posner and Gary Becker (<http://www.becker-posner-blog.com/>), have written on two interesting themes that relate to student debt.

According to them, since 1980, the relative value of obtaining a degree has risen considerably, from degree holders making 50 percent more per hour than high school graduates, to about 95 percent today (Student Loans – Posner's comment). He argues that student debt should be of less concern to students, because in the long-term, obtaining a degree will benefit them financially. While there may be some emotional motivation for young people to be debt-free, economically, it is in their best interest to carry this burden, at least for a while, if it allows them to complete their degree in a more timely fashion.

High tuition costs are believed to prevent access to education to the poor. Yet, there are two objections to this that need to

be raised. First, tuition reduction generally supports those who can already afford post secondary education. Children of middle and upper class parents are already much more likely to attend university than children of lower class parents. By subsidizing education this way, the main beneficiaries are those who are the top income earners already. There are more effective ways to help those who do need it, as Posner and Becker explain.

Secondly, for-profit universities tend to have much higher enrolment of lower income people. In particular, the (mostly) online University of Phoenix has found its niche by providing many poor people with the opportunity to pursue educational goals on a part time basis. Their flexibility comes in two ways: One, they do not have expensive campuses that need to be maintained by student tuition; Two, they do not require the time structure that most universities have.

This second point needs to be clarified. The times that classes are held at most universities make it difficult for students to both hold full time jobs and attend school. However, many people that are enrolled in the University of Phoenix need to maintain their jobs to provide support for their families, but their desire for higher education

can be pursued through the specialized programs at places like U of P.

Returning to the thought of Milton Friedman, he argued that even in education, the market can offer solutions. Schools like the University of Phoenix are thriving, with thousands of students who would not otherwise be able to further their education. Competition can make schools better. Opening up the educational market will give every school further incentive to excel in what they do. Look at the SPAD program at Laurentian: it is very unique, offered by few other places in North America, and its graduates are highly sought after by many sporting teams. Finally, last year, a Laurentian political science graduate beat out all of Canada to win the honour of being "Canada's Next Great Prime Minister."

Laurentian does those things, and many others well. We do them well because we have to. We have to compete against large, wealthy schools by offering excellent programs that are less expensive than theirs are. Laurentian students can compete with students from any other school in the world, and we can do this because of our competitive advantage.

Tuition hike provides healthy education

BY JORDAN GLASS
CONTRIBUTOR

As many students seem to be in the spirit of discussing tuition fees these days, it only seems logical that as a student myself, and a former member of the SGA Board I throw my two cents in. Well here it is. This is why the McGuinty Liberal Government's Reaching Higher plan for post-secondary education is the best for students today and the best for the citizens of Ontario.

Let us begin. Investments in people, through postsecondary education and enhanced skills training, is the route to greater prosperity for Ontario. That is

why the Government is creating more high quality postsecondary opportunities for Ontario students. Through the \$6.2 Billion Reaching Higher plan, the largest postsecondary investment in 40 years, we are seeing results:

More opportunities: 86,000 more students in college and university – a 22% increase compared to four years ago;

More grad spaces: adding 12,000 more graduate students by 2007-08, over 2002-03 levels;

More affordability: more students receiving assistance than ever before – 120,000 different students receiving grants,

including 60,000 new upfront tuition grants;

More assistance: an increase in student assistance maximums – \$9500 to \$11,900 – a 25% increase after an 11 year freeze and every dollar over \$7000 is a grant, not a loan;

Breaking down barriers for first generation students, aboriginals, persons with disabilities and francophones;

Improving quality: more professors, better equipment, improved student support services.

The McGuinty government believes that everyone deserves a fair shot. That is why the Government supports a progres-

sive system of student assistance: the most aid goes to those students who need it the most. The Government has enshrined a commitment to accessibility in the new "Student Access Guarantee," negotiated with each college and university. Through the guarantee, no qualified Ontario student will be prevented from attending due to a lack of financial support programs to help cover the cost of tuition, books and mandatory fees.

When the McGuinty Government came into power, 35 per cent of 18-24 yr olds were participating in postsecondary education. This year, that num-

ber has grown to 40 per cent – the highest rate in Ontario's history. More students, higher quality education, and financial support for students – these results show that the Reaching Higher plan is working, and everyone deserves credit for doing their part. The Government is closer to achieving a goal of ensuring that every Ontarian has the opportunity to pursue a postsecondary education or enhanced skills training – because Ontario won't reach its potential until every one of us has a chance to reach their full potential.

Hard to argue with the facts.

SPORTS

Regular basketball season draws to a close

BY LAUREN LAROCQUE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Laurentian Voyageurs men's basketball team faced a high pressure game on Saturday, February 17, versus the York Lions. This was the team's final game of the regular season, and the pressure to win was stronger than ever, because a loss could possibly result in missing the playoffs.

The team seemed to have rebounded from a shaky start to the season. They had won five of their last six games. One of these came against the Carleton Ravens, who are the number one ranked team.

The Vees put on a strong offensive in the second, and man-

aged to reduce the lead that the York Lions had earned in the first. They were able to reduce the deficit but still fell short, losing the game 80-67. After the game, coach Virgil Hill explained what went wrong.

"Their size and length gave us some problems and they were able to capitalize on our mistakes", said Hill. Luckily for the Vees, their play-off spot was not lost, due to Ryerson University losing to the University of Toronto team.

Brody Bishop, playing in his last home game for the Voyageurs, led the Voyageurs with 26 points and 3 rebounds. Jason Brown also helped the

Voyageurs by scoring 19 points to go along with his 3 assists. Up next for the team is a road playoff game against the University of Toronto Varsity Blues on Wednesday, February 21st.

The Lady Vees' regular season also came to a close, and they began their playoff run versus the Carleton Ravens. The women have been solid against the Ravens during the regular season, winning both games by an average of twenty-five points. As with most sports, the playoff are a completely different ball game, so the Lady Vees still needed to be sharp. The East quarterfinal was an intense and fast-paced game, and the Lady Vees won

with a score of 77-57.

"Overall we did what we were suppose to do and we are looking forward to the OUA East semi-final next Wednesday," said Head Coach Clarke.

Cassandra Carpenter, with 19 points and 9 rebounds, and Darrah Bumstead, with 16 points and 6 rebounds, lead the way for the Lady Vees. The next game for the team is the East semi-final, which is scheduled to be played on Wednesday, February 21st.

The success of the Lady Vees was recognized on February 16, as three players were named as the east division all-stars. For a third year in a row, fourth year veteran Cassandra Carpenter was

named the OUA east player of the year, and was also named an OUA first-team all star. The honour was well deserved for Carpenter, who averaged 20.8 points and 8.5 rebounds per game during the regular season. Carpenter sits first on the OUA career scoring list with 1717 points and on the rebounding list with 811 rebounds. She finished the regular season ranked third in the country in scoring.

Katie Goggins was named east division top rookie. Teammate Lisa Furcher was also named to the east rookie all-star team. Furcher finished the season 18th in rebounding in the OUA.

Ask for Mercy: Hands On

BY JAN CARRIE STEVEN
STUDENT SERVICES
COUNSELLOR

Counselling and Support Services offers much more than Counselling and Support—we offer hands-on ways that students (and staff) can get involved in the community—locally and internationally. We do this through our Volunteer Services and our Humanitarian Services—often in partnership with the PreMed Society and the SGA and AEF.

Our humanitarian wing, in partnership with the PreMed Society, has four projects it is supporting this term: 1. providing outerwear for homeless people, 2. practical items for the poor in Haiti, 3. niceties for lonely residents in our seniors' homes, and 4. clothing and kitchenware for formerly addicted members of our society. You may have seen our flyer that reads like so:

January & February

Habiliment for the Homeless. Got used but clean hats, mitts, socks, and coats you're not using? We know folks who will use them. We also welcome donations of new underwear.

Hearts for Haiti. Volunteers for Cercle Missionnaires de la Vallee welcomes donations of all kinds that will be shipped to Haiti: medical supplies, tools, safety gear, kitchen stuff.

March & April

Random Acts of Kindness. Voluntary chaplains for lonely residents in long term care facilities need donations of small vases (for fresh flowers), and hand-made blankets (knitted, crocheted, quilted).

Welcome to "The Rock". The "Rockhaven Recovery Home for Men" welcomes donations of clean clothing and footwear for current residents and small kitchen appliances (toasters, kettles, frying pans, etc.) for men who are ready to return to the community.

You can drop these items off any time at Counseling and Support Services, L210 (Parker Building). And though we are focusing on different charities at different times, we will gladly take "March and April" items



CONTRIBUTED

Mercy says "Let them eat cake!"

in "January and February", and vice versa.

You are welcome to contact Melissa Lafontaine, President of the PreMed Society, or Jan Carrie Steven, Counselor, at jc_steven@laurentian.ca

HUNGER-BUSTING

The Pre-Med Society and Student Services did an amazing job of emptying out the SGA/AEF food bank during the Christmas Food and Toy drive. Now we are trying to fill it again because, sadly, food budgets can be tight all year round. Here are the items that we have found to be the most useful.

canned fish or meat or poultry
canned fruit and vegetables
canned stew or hearty soup
raviolis or zoodles
mac & cheese
canned pork & beans
pasta & sauce
rice & instant potatoes
peanut butter & cheese spread
hot & cold cereal

Please drop items off at the office of the SGA (SCE 212) or AEF (SCE 202). Both associations are located in the Student Centre—near the smaller Tim Horton's. Thank you.

STRESS-BUSTING

Finally, some stress-busting ideas:

1. get a plant – get a bunch of plants, especially colourful ones.

2. exercise outside – especially on sunny days. We're offering a lunch-time power-walking program after reading week.

3. play music – according to the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA), it's good for everything.

4. get a phototherapy lamp or simply change to full-spectrum light bulbs.

5. go out for a decadent hot drink with a friend.

6. adopt a cat (off campus residents only! J). They're great listeners.

7. learn to knit. Our "Knitting to Reduce Stress" classes begin after the February break! They are on Fridays from noon to 1 pm - March 2, 16, 23, & 30 in L-239. The location for the March 9th session is tba.

8. journaling and drawing are creative ways to channel your stress.

9. watch a funny movie. May I suggest some classics? "Harvey," "Arsenic and Old Lace," "The Pink Panther" (Peter Sellers), and "Adam's Rib!"

10. And talk to a positive person. Come and see a senior social work student or a regular counselor at Student Services. Call 675-1151 #6506 to book!

Intramural Update

BY THE INTRAMURAL
COORDINATORS

This year's Nordic Games Intramural event, held on Friday, January 26, 2007, was a big success. Eleven participants, both old and new to the sport, joined us for a good day of skiing and fun. After a short introduction to the sport of cross country skiing and basic equipment usage, all teams participated in an obstacle relay race. Team Red took the championship title, moving us onto the next event, Ultimate Frisbee, where Team Yellow won by a landslide. Specialty awards were presented to many participants. Most Improved Participant was given to Pritty Sharma, Textbook Frisbee Player was presented to Leah Meltz and Joe Schier, and Captain Cheerleader presented to Derek Chung and Julie Porter. Finally, "The Target Moved!" award was presented to Ainsley Shrader while Kiltie Sabin won the Tazmanian Devil award. We thank all participants who came out in the blistering cold weather, and hope to see you all on skies again in the future!

On Sunday, February 4, 2007 Intramural Super Splash was held at the Laurentian Olympic Gold Pool. The cannonball contest hit the pool at 3pm and it hit hard. Each participant was given three jump attempts to impress the celebrity judges, including Phil Parker, the varsity swim coach and Gabrielle Lemieux, the AEF president.

Andy Hilts came out on top of the men's division, being the only participant to receive a perfect score of 10 in all three jumps. His most outstanding jump started out as a dive but at the last second rotated into a cannonball. In the women's division Julie Lachapelle took 1st place, with three entertaining jumps including a painful looking belly flop. Jeff Deault took the crown over many others for best costume with a very, very, tight Superman costume.

We were successful in raising over 100 food items for The Sudbury Food Bank from both spectators and participants. Thank you to everyone that came out to support the cause. We would like to thank the Computer Horizons Canada for donating our major door prize to attract spectators and The New Sudbury Nutrition Centre for donating our

prizes for the top two jumpers. We would also like to thank the following companies for donating generously for door prizes: Body Works Fitness & Wellness Centre, Cineplex Entertainment, Rainbow Cinemas, Culpeppers Restaurant, Subway, Arctic Tan, La Moda The Hair Cut Centre, and Mulligans Indoor Golf. Super Splash would not have been able to be a success without your generous support.

Thank you very Phil Parker and Gabrielle Lemieux for donating your time to judge our event and support Super Splash and The Sudbury Food Bank. Jeff McGarry did a wonderful job being the master of ceremonies for the afternoon and his talent was greatly appreciated. Super Splash was a great success this year and could not have been without the students of Laurentian. Make sure you to come out for Intramural Super Splash next year, for a wonderful time.

The Intramural Co-Ed Indoor Soccer League conveners would like to extend a thank you to all of the participants who played this year. Congratulations to the top teams in both the Competitive and Non-competitive leagues. The top two teams for Division 1 of the Competitive League were G.O.A.T Alliance in first place and Hookers in a close second. The top two teams for Division 2 of the Competitive League were Gunners in first and then Team Sexy Back following in second place. The top two teams for Division 1 of the Non-Competitive League were Newfies in first place and Team SWAT in second. The top two teams for Division 2 of the Non-Competitive League were U of S in first and Mikey Mike in second.

Also we would like to thank all those who participated in our Bad Taste theme night. The winners of this event were We Score with our Balls for the Competitive League and U of S for the Non-Competitive League. Last but not least we would like to thank all the referees, scorekeepers, and the department of Active Living. Thanks again, the Intramural Co-Ed Indoor Soccer League would not have been such a success without your help. See you all next year!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Comedy night showcases sarcasm and satire

BY MATTHEW MOSKAL
A&E EDITOR

Three days after Valentine's Day, love was truly in the air. Was it unconditional love? Hardly, the love being spoken of was an entertaining take on romance by the likes of Mark Bennett, Sudbury's Brendan McKeighan, Trevor Boris and the always lovely Debra DiGiovanni.

Passion was in the room as the comic foursome took the stage and tossed the proverbial conch between one another in a relay of hilarity. Bennett started out the night with his hilarious take on such subjects as family, Adam West's Batman, and taking the stage like a rock star. Hecklers were on-hand, but some of the biggest highlights of Bennett's warped sense of humour came from his level headed responses to audience members who soon thought twice about vocalizing their opinion. His duties as host led to

further rants throughout the evening to help keep the hype rolling for each performer to follow.

Taking the stage next with a celebration of local talent, Sudbury's own Brendan McKeighan strutted his stuff in front of the crowd with his own fun brand of physical comedy. Brendan's energy level never faltered once during the performance, and his material struck a chord of relevance with the crowd. Anyone who's ever taken a road trip across Ontario can relate to his uproarious "baby giraffe" routine, which nearly stole the show early on in the evening. McKeighan's exit was to a large applause that paved way for the headliners of the night.

Trevor Boris brought his sarcastic wit and relentless criticisms to the main stage and didn't come out empty handed. One of the key aspects to the routine was Boris' impeccable ability to

reuse certain aspects of his earlier jokes to create a sort of inside humour with the crowd. It was very welcoming when it came time to look to local Laurentian students to set up a few adlibbed punch lines. His comic timing and charming snicker let the audience know that he was having just as much fun as them. This was ultimately a neat surprise for those attending.

To put a cherry on the top of the evening, Debra DiGiovanni sauntered centre stage with a grin visible to the lighting booth. Much like on Video on Trial, Debra was her own harshest critic. While her sense of humour reflected a degree of loneliness in her life, the audience she stood before had clearly fallen in love with her by the end of the night. Her material played on aspects of a relationship that many would consider taboo even to themselves at times. However, with her fearless tone and natural ability to take leaps and bounds



CONTRIBUTED

Debra DiGiovanni and Trevor Boris entertained Laurentian students last week in the Fraser Auditorium.

over the line of too much, Debra is a comic gem who could soon find herself in much more of a mainstream light.

If one needed to feel the warm embrace of a late Valentine, tingling through their

body as they twirl in blissful splendour, it's likely they wouldn't be found anywhere near the Debra and Trevor tour. However, you could still feel the love, if that's what you'd like to call it.

SGA PRESENTS

Trailer Park Boys Mr. Lahey and Randy

Sunday March 4th, 2007
Fraser Auditorium
Starting at 7pm



Tickets Available Daily 11:30am - 2:30pm
In front of the Great Hall
Anytime from SGA or SPAD Office
In Advance
\$15 for Students and \$20 for the General Public
At the Door
\$20 for Students and \$25 for the General Public
Pizza and Refreshments
Door Prizes

TRAILER PARK BOYS COMING TO LAURENTIAN

For the first time at Laurentian University, the SGA and SPAD are proud to announce two talented comedians on campus. John Dunsworth and Patrick Roach, better known as Mr. Lahey and Randy, of Showcase's hit TV series Trailer Park Boys, will be entertaining Sudbury residents on Sunday, March 4th at 7 p.m. in the Fraser Auditorium. Advanced tickets are only \$15 for students and \$20 for non-students, while they are \$20 for students and \$25 for non-students at the door.

Student Services Presents:

Lighting a Fire: Finding the
ways to motivate yourself to
study

With speaker Sean Stolp

March 7th, 2007 @ 4:30pm
Room C-205

Laurentian University
Microcomputer Centre

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March 1st, 2007

New Location
Room A-130
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Microcomputer Centre's Grand Opening

IBM will be making an additional presentation:
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Storage, and Professional Workstations" on
March 1, 2007 at 9am in room DA-102

Door Prizes throughout the day!

CAMPUS NEWS

Laurentian special needs in need of rejuvenation

BY MATTHEW
DESROSIERS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Laurentian University (LU) is an institution that is proud to boast about its cultural diversity. Not only a bi-lingual institution, Laurentian is also home to international students from around the world, as well as students from a variety of ethnic and religious backgrounds. One group that finds themselves overlooked, however, are the disabled students.

These students with special needs have made their way to post-secondary education and attempt to function in a place that 'regular' students struggle in every day. With language, medical, psychological and physical barriers to deal with, it is no surprise that they need a place where they can get the help they need to succeed. This is where the Laurentian University Special Needs office comes in.

The office was founded in 1989 and serviced eight students. As of the end of the 2005/2006 academic year, 7% of the total full time enrollment at LU had special needs (roughly 435 students), and according to Earl Black, special needs coordinator,

this number is continuing to rise.

"It ranges from students with all kinds of disabilities, from psychiatric, learning, physical," said Black. "Some people may come temporarily for a broken arm or leg for example, and they might need someone to help them out in that kind of situation."

Servicing this many students, each with unique problems and needs, can be very time consuming. The department employs specialists to help out, however the volume of students compared to these specialists means that they are booked solid throughout the year. This makes it hard for new students to find time to come in and speak to the counselors.

"I feel that we are very understaffed," Black said. "Our numbers have gone up, and particularly with students with psychiatric problems, it requires a lot of time management for them and study technique. We have one full time learning strategist and one part time study skills specialist, and they're pretty well booked solid from September."

Beyond providing counseling and special training, the special needs office also provides a place for students to come and work. Their office is split into

two locations. The first is in room L-210, which is shared with Student Services and the Placement Centre. This makes privacy an issue when there is no space for offices or meeting rooms. The second location is in the J.N. Desmarais Library. Here students are able to sit down and do their work in reserved areas. The problem, however, is that the area is adjacent to the Learning Commons, where a large number of students are working and discussing their work with each other and with advisers. This can provide a large distraction for students with learning disabilities.

Black has petitioned the school for more space, however due to the on-going space crisis at LU, his pleas have fallen on help-less ears.

"We're at that growth stage where we really need a space for ourselves," said Black. "[Our current situation] is very inconvenient. If we ask to go into the learning commons to take their space, I don't think that's appropriate. They have no room themselves. We're busting at the seams again. We need to look at structuring out and having a special needs area."

It is possible that Black is considering a move similar to one that was made at Cambrian College. Realizing that the needs of their students were not being met, the Cambrian special needs department, along with the college administration, began raising money for a new centre. After raising \$3.1 million, the Glenn Crombie Centre was built.

This special needs centre houses private rooms for students to meet with their counselors, testing rooms so that specialists can test for and identify disabilities in students, a voice recognition room that contains computers with voice recognition software for the purpose of word-processing, accessible computer labs, equipment trial labs for students who require special technologies, student resting rooms complete with beds and curtains for privacy, and lastly personal care rooms. These personal care rooms provide students with physical disabilities access to a variety of services from special showers to washing machines for their clothing.

The Glenn Crombie Centre services between 700 and 800 students, making this facility not only an important asset at

Cambrian college, but a necessity. They receive the same funding as Laurentian does from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, which is a value proportional to the number of students serviced. According to Susan Alcorn McKay, the Director of the Glenn Crombie Centre, the college also helps the centre with roughly \$70,000 a year to keep the facility running.

The LU special needs department contributes to the community through a program that sends its students to local high schools. The purpose of this program is to inspire young students with disabilities to aspire to a post-secondary education. The reality, however, is that often-times students with disabilities don't come to post-secondary because they don't see themselves as capable enough. Having a centre dedicated to special needs at Laurentian would go a long way in truly making education accessible to everyone, regardless of physical ability. Although it may not be possible to fully emulate the Glenn Crombie Centre, a page or two can be taken from their book in an attempt to improve the special needs department at Laurentian.

Climate change caused by humans: UN report

Nuclear power 'only real solution,' says Canadian contributor

BY STEVE CAREY

THE MARLET

(UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA)
VICTORIA (CUP)

Flooding in low-lying areas, drought in others, an increase in hurricanes and tornadoes — everyone can feel that global warming is here.

The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a summary report on Feb. 2 that identifies an increase in temperature, sea level, the loss of ice caps and a possible increase in extreme weather patterns. The full report, over 1,000 pages in length, comes out this spring.

"We're seeing [climate change] initiatives in municipal and local levels now. There's a certain heightened consciousness around global warming," said Stephen Lonergan, a University of Victoria geography professor and one of many contributing authors of the report. "Hurricane Katrina, Al Gore's film ['An Inconvenient Truth'] — it's very much in the news now, and people are realizing this is going to cause major environmental problems."

The IPCC summary states that the warming is from anthro-

pogenic causes: pollution caused by people.

According to the summary, 11 of the last 12 years (1995-2006) rank among the 12 warmest years on record since 1850.

"It's difficult for anyone to say they don't agree with the IPCC report," Lonergan said. "It's been accepted by the various governments as the standard of climate science."

The 0.1 C yearly increase means gradual climate change is inevitable. Lonergan believes that the changes will be more devastating to developing countries, which won't be able to adapt, as some of the more prosperous ones will.

"A drought in drinking water in Victoria may be a problem, but droughts in sub-Saharan Africa will be terrible," said Lonergan.

Cornelis Van Kooten, a UVic professor, Canada Research Chair in Environmental Studies and Climate Change and IPCC contributing author, believes that a more pressing problem is a looming power crisis that could hinder our own ability to adapt.

On rising sea level simulations, the IPCC report predicts a 0.18-metre to 0.6-metre increase between 2090 and 2099. The pro-

jected temperature is predicted to increase from 1.1 to 6.4 C.

"Those sea level rises, they're not the 6.5-metre increase Al Gore predicted, but if you live on a low-lying island — the Maldives, Tuvalu — you'll experience some impact. If you live on a delta — Bangladesh, certainly."

The David Suzuki Foundation promotes going carbon neutral — reducing your carbon footprint through offsets and life changes — as a part of sustainable living.

Lonergan's son flies twice a week. He buys offsets for every trip equal to the amount of carbon he emits. Lonergan buys credits to offset his daily driving.

The theory behind carbon offsets is that every emission to the atmosphere can be reduced equally with another sustainable action, such as planting trees or installing solar panels that last for 25 years.

"We were driving in the HOV [high-occupancy vehicle] lane in L.A. — a five-lane freeway — doing 85 to 88 kilometres an hour, very little traffic, and those other four lanes were [packed full] in a dead stop," Lonergan said. "Saying we should carpool and ride buses is

one thing, but it's very hard to get people to do it."

Carbon offsets can be purchased through companies such as The Climate Trust, which runs CarbonCounter.org. With the Carbon Counter, you calculate the yearly tons of carbon dioxide you dump into the atmosphere through your car, apartment and air travel. Projects that help offset the tons of carbon dioxide will be funded with your one-time or monthly donations.

"A lot of that is smoke and mirrors," said Van Kooten, who is skeptical about offsets.

His own research into the economics of forestry and climate have shown that other methods, such as having ethanol in gasoline, won't be valuable until they become regulated.

"The people of B.C. might be [doing] something [positive] about climate change until they realize they're not going to have electricity or pay \$4 or \$5 at the pump," Van Kooten said.

Proposed power solutions such as wind power or natural gas aren't good enough, Van Kooten said. Wind is inefficient because it requires a coal or gas backup on standby, which is cost inefficient.

Even Lonergan, a user of

carbon offsets, said they won't get us out of the fire just yet.

"Even if we stabilize emissions at present levels, we're going to see increasing impacts from climate change, in various levels," Lonergan said. "Until we're able to adopt [a sustainable] philosophy, we're in for a tough time."

Van Kooten agrees.

"There's a direct relation between well-being and energy use," he said. "The people hurt first are going to be the ones less well off in society."

Other solutions, such as hydroelectric dams, coal and biomass, would be inefficient and open up a political can of worms.

Van Kooten said the only climate-friendly power solution is to go nuclear.

"We can go hog wild on nuclear power. That's the only real solution out there. Everything else is a stopgap," he said.

Van Kooten points out that the refinement process only uses three per cent of the material each time, and older Candu reactors can use the current waste from American nuclear power plants, refine it and continue to make power.

Dr. Woodworth holds annual meeting

BY ALEXANDRA TAYLOR
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Students, community and faculty were invited on Valentine's Day to attend a Community meeting held by University President Judith Woodworth. Woodworth used this opportunity to make a number of announcements regarding new faculty and researchers at Laurentian, as well as informing the audience about new developments around campus. Woodworth took the opportunity to discuss the progress that

was being made on the Living with Lakes Centre, and introduced a number of people who had been hired to work on the project, including Peter Beckett, a Biology professor and the new Education and Outreach Advisor at the Lakes Centre.

Woodworth also discussed the Capital Campaign that Laurentian is currently pursuing, and stated that the "image of the university has improved significantly." She explained that there were several 'theme teams' being created to explore strategic plan-

ning, including graduate programs, academic support, the learning commons, and financial investments. Woodworth also spent time discussing the current construction projects with the audience, including looking into building another residence.

Woodworth was also happy to announce that the new addition to the Arts building was a "cost neutral facility" and that the building costs are expected to be recovered within the next few years.



Alexandra Taylor / LAMBDA

President Judith Woodworth introduces the new developments at Laurentian during the Community Meeting.

GENERAL NEWS

Student protests continue at Laurentian

BY ALEXANDRA TAYLOR
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Adding to the mass protests at the Day of Action on February 7, students last week continued their campaign against increased tuition fees. A group of about 10 students interrupted the opening ceremonies of the new NMR lab in West 132 in order to present their issues to MPP Rick Bartolucci. Students used this rare visit to explain to the Honourable Minister that students in Ontario are currently being debilitated by mounting debt and increased tuition fees, and they presented a plea to the audience to educate themselves about the issues and to fight for the right to an affordable and accessible education. Students had previously attempted to discuss their issues with Mr. Bartolucci on February 6th during the Sudbury Day of Action, but were informed that he was not available to meet with student representatives.

Tuition fees were the topic of discussion all day on Friday, February 16th as over 20 students participated in a number of protests and demonstrations leading up to the university board meeting during which the tuition fee increase was to be passed. Action started at 11am when students in pairs took over the elevators in the Parker Building, posting signs and posters that included the names and debt load of individual students at Laurentian. Ranging from \$2000 to upwards of \$30,000, the posters provided a real explanation of the difficul-

ties that students are currently facing.

The students then slowed down the elevators for a full hour while board members attempted to reach the Governor's Lounge on the 11th floor for their meeting. Students performed street theatre for the board members and the public, discussing loudly between themselves the problems with their debt and how they felt about the tuition fee increases. The hope was that their discussions would be overheard and reflected upon by the board members who were about to vote on yet another increase in fees. Participants successfully outlined their fears and concerns about their futures, including complaints that graduate school might be out of the question for students who are already facing \$20,000 in OSAP debt. By the end of the hour, students were also singing and encouraging people on every floor to participate every time the elevator doors opened.

"This is the debt that never ends, yes it goes on and on my friends - Some people started paying it not knowing what it was, and they'll continue paying it forever just because... This is the debt that never ends..."

The board members luncheon began at noon and students were barred from the Governor's Lounge by security. Armed with paper plates and cups, participants stood at the doors and requested leftovers, while some yelled "Our tuition fees are paying for that free food you're eating!" Student government mem-

bers on the board snuck out occasionally with plates of food and the protesters posed for photos as they shared the catered lasagna and fresh bread.

As the board members filtered into the boardroom, students were permitted to enter and filled the seats on the walls of the room, outnumbering the board members. Participants sat quietly for over two hours as the board discussed and decided upon a number of important motions, including the proposed second access road on campus. Last on the agenda were the university financial reports, including the proposed tuition fee increases of 4% per year for undergraduates and 8% for graduate and professional students. SGA President Luke Norton gave an impassioned speech about problems that students across Ontario were facing due to the cost of education. It was suggested that the board pass an amendment that created a union between students, faculty and administration that could be used to search for new and innovative ways to raise funds to allow for more accessibility and less restriction for students.

Just before the vote to pass the fee increase, the student protesters stood up and began chanting anti-fee mantras, restricting the board members from communicating or voting on the proposed increase. Participants continued for over 10 minutes while the members of the board eventually exited the boardroom and retreated into President



Alexandra Taylor / LAMBDA

On Friday, February 16, students took control of the elevators in the R.D. Parker building as part of a protest against the proposed tuition hike. While members of the Board of Governors were inside, the students delayed the elevators, forcing the board members to listen to them on their way to the meeting. Despite these protests, the board passed the motion to raise tuition fees.

Woodsworth's office. With shakers of macaroni and cheese and well-rehearsed songs and chants, the students refused to accept

another fee increase and continued their protest as they drifted into the lobby of the Governor's Lounge.

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Research week showcases LU's contributions

BY ALEXANDRA TAYLOR
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Research activities at Laurentian have been gaining a worldwide reputation for a number of years, and Research Week from February 9 to 16 allowed researchers and administrators to open their projects to the public. Laurentian faculty members are currently involved in over 250 funded projects and the total research grants this year have totaled over \$20 million, including a number of innovative new studies.

Research Week kicked off on February 9 with the launch of Laurentian's new research magazine, *The Key*. This magazine was created so that Laurentian can share their research activities with the public, as well as publishing information about current projects and how they are developing. The first issue, Winter 2007, covers a variety of topics, including climate change, tobacco use in Aboriginal communities, particle research and Laurentian's own Living with Lakes Centre. Bilingual and easy to read, *The Key* promises to be an important tool to connect the public with the many projects that Laurentian has on the go.

Friday and Saturday nights saw presentations of "The World of Luciano Berio" as part of the 5-Penny New Music Concert Series. The performance also included two presentations, one by Paul Colilli, professor of Italian Studies at Laurentian University, about "Umberto Eco and the Role of the Listener" and a second one, a showing of Frank Scheffer's documentary on Luciano Berio.

Tuesday, February 13 included a panel discussion about Aboriginal Research and the ethics and barriers involved in studies of Aboriginal culture. Facilitated by Sheila Hardy, Laurentian's Director of Academic (Native Affairs), panelists included Professor Iain Taylor from UBC, Laurentian Professor of Native Human Services, Susan Manitowabi and Taima Moeke-Pickering from the University of Waikato in New Zealand. The panelists each discussed the concerns that they have about research that is being performed in Aboriginal communities, and made suggestions about the best ways that researchers can explore Native communities. They also outlined the important consideration about traditional knowledge, and how it does not always conform to collected scientific data. Moeke-Pickering shared a number of stories about the Maori in New Zealand and she explained that through the research projects currently under way, ancient knowledge is being resurrected, and the traditional languages and prayers are being protected. All the panelists shared the sentiment that the research being performed should always be done in a way that benefits the community. They also discussed the differences between Western cultures and Aboriginal cultures, in that Western cultures are often seen as science vs. art vs. medicine, while in Aboriginal cultures, everything is studied within the same category, especially when telling stories and sharing tradi-

tional knowledge. The panelists concluded the presentation with encouraging words for all the students and researchers in the room, supporting the incredible amount of work already being accomplished within Northern communities.

Faculty had the opportunity to present their own work on Wednesday, February 14 during an event called "Meet our Creators" in the Governors Lounge. Laurentian faculty used this time to present publications as well as art and other creative works.

Thursday saw the opening of Laurentian's newest research tool, the High Field Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) facility. Presentations at the event included a discussion by MPP Rick Bartolucci, who was proud of the continuing success of research in Northern Ontario.

In addition to the formal announcements made during the

week, there were also a number of opportunities for students and faculty to showcase their research work. From Monday to Wednesday,

Laurentian researchers had displays set up in the Bowling Alley to present and discuss their work with students and the Sudbury community. Many students used this opportunity to explore the possible fields that they were interested in pursuing after graduation, and it also helped to demonstrate the depth of work being pursued here at Laurentian. Wednesday and Thursday saw graduate students presenting their research in the Student Centre – both the sciences and humanities were included, and graduate students were able to present and discuss their research projects with the audience as well as answer questions and explain the reasoning behind their topic selections.



Alexandra Taylor / LAMBDA

Laurentian administrators and researchers gathered to unveil the new high field Nuclear Magnetic Resonance facility (NMR). Donated by Merck Frosst, the NMR will allow Laurentian scientists to conduct competitive research in a variety of fields.



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SPORTS

Laurentian Voyageurs have strong showing at championships

BY LAUREN LAROCQUE
SPORTS EDITOR

On February 9, the Voyageurs headed to Guelph to compete in their largest meet of the year, the Ontario University Swimming Championships (OUC). Both the men's and women's teams have been solid all season, so it was sure to be an exciting meet.

The men's team faced the challenge of competing with only eight swimmers. This resulted in members swimming three individual and three relay events in order to try to obtain as many points as teams carrying larger rosters. The women also had a

small team, with only eleven swimmers. Head coach Phil Parker was excited to see the results of the teams' hard work, saying "They have worked very hard in training all year long and are getting more and more mentally prepared for the final task at hand. They have a great deal of confidence in one another and it is quite inspiring for a coach to see the teams coming together just at the right time".

By the end of day one of the competition, the Vees had already made an impact, ending the day with two podium finishes. Rookie Kylie Commito, who entered the final ranked in eighth

position, finished second in the 200m freestyle. The second medal of the day went to Blair Smith, with a third place in the 400 individual medley, dropping seven seconds off his personal best. This left the men's team ranked ninth and the women's team in sixth place. Coach Parker remarked "we are very pleased with Kyleigh and Blair's podium finishes this evening. Stephanie Kuhn and Mike Allain won the consolation finals in the 50 meter backstroke putting a cap on a great day of swimming. All-in-all, it was a great night of racing here in Guelph for the Voyageurs and Lady Vees. Saturday prelims should bring some more great swimming".

Saturday definitely brought more great swimming, as veteran Stephanie Kuhn qualified for the CIS championships in the 50m butterfly. Along with Kuhn, eight other swimmers qualified for that night's finals. Kyleigh Commito just missed the podium, finishing less than a second behind the third place finisher in the 400m freestyle. This was the highest finish for both teams at Saturday's finals. Ryan Smith swam to a fifth place finish in the 200m individual medley, leaving the men's team in tenth place by the end of the day.

The Vees came back and finished strong on the third and final day of the meet, ending with a silver medal, a gold medal and two CIS championship qualifying times. Amanda Long swam a

CIS qualifying time in 800-metre freestyle event with a time of 9:19.82. By the end of the meet, the Lady Vees were ranked with fifth with 196.5 points and the men's teams finished in eighth place with 193 points.

The OUA championships was the biggest meet so far in the careers of the teams' rookies. Nepean native Valerie Testa represented the Vees in her first OUA championships. Testa was pleased with how the meet went, saying that "OUA's went very well for the entire Aquavees squad as everyone was achieving best times right from day one. That helped to raise our spirits, and carried through the whole weekend. As a first-time Lady Vee OUA Champs participant, not only was it a great experience, I was also able to achieve some longtime goals. The OUA championship is the high point of our season, when all of our hard work is tested to produce fast swims. Whenever a Voyageur was in the water, the entire team cheered loudly, and because the pool deck was far smaller than at LU it created an even more motivating environment".

When asked about her impressions of her rookie season, Testa replied, "It was a very successful year since I achieved a number of breakthrough swims, thanks largely to the supportive coaching by Phil Parker and Alain Delorme. The transition from "club" swimming to varsity, was made easier as a result of the

veterans who were all very welcoming since September".

Nest year's returning swimmers may be done competing for the season, but that does not mean that their work is done. They will still continue to train and many will return home in the spring to train with their home clubs to stay in shape for next year. Testa has already set goals for next year, saying "my goals for next year are most definitely to stay in shape throughout the summer months by continuing swimming at my home club (Nepean Kanata Barracudas Swim Club) and cross-training. This year's experience has encouraged me to return even stronger in September, picking up right where I left off, so that I will have an even better season next year".

When asked how it feels to be done the season, Testa said "This season went by surprisingly quickly. It's really sad to see it coming to an end, and especially having to say goodbye to our graduating swimmers. They were great role models and a true asset to LU varsity swimming".

The champion ships were also the last meet in the varsity careers for the teams' graduating swimmers. Graduating swimmer Jaimie Scobie noted "retirement feel strange; I don't know what to do with myself between 4-7pm anymore". When asked if she approached her final meet with a different attitude, the newly retired swimmer replied "my approach to the last meet was to go out and have some fun and try to do my best, and don't gold anything back". This approach proved to be successful, as she dropped seven seconds off her 200 freestyle time, and also swam a personal best in the 100m freestyle. Scobie noted that the graduating swimmers sported pink shorts that said "retired". Scobie herself also paid homage to the Voyageurs, carrying around a paddle.

Top sixteen finishes and highlight swims include:

Mike Allain: 14th-200 Backstroke (2:13.75), 9th-100 Backstroke (1:00.87), 9th-50 Backstroke (28.40)
Alexander Bonne: 16th-1500 Freestyle (17:46.79)
Kyleigh Commito: 6th-800 Freestyle (9:16.60), 4th-400 Freestyle (4:24.93),
Alix Cronk: 15th-100 Backstroke (1:10.44)
Courtney Hicks: 12th-200 Butterfly (2:31.98), 8th-100 Butterfly (1:07.17)
Zack Hurd: 7th-100 Freestyle (54.33), 13th-50 Butterfly (26.95),
Stephanie Kuhn: 12th-50 Breaststroke (36.20), 15th-50 Freestyle (27.30), 5th-50 Butterfly (28.90), 9th-50 Backstroke (31.85),
Amanda Long: 7th-800 Freestyle (9:19.82* CIS Standard), 10th-400 Freestyle (4:32.38), 14th-400 Individual Medley (5:20.49)
Mike Murray: 11th-1500 Freestyle (17:25.11)
Blair Smith: 4th-1500 Freestyle (16:34.49), 6th-400 Freestyle (4:06.88), 5th-200 meter freestyle (1:55.65),
Ryan Smith: 7th-200 Butterfly (2:12.66), 10th-200 Backstroke (2:10.72), 5th-200 Individual Medley (2:10.36)
Valerie Testa: 14th-200 breaststroke (2:48.98), 16th-100 Breaststroke (1:19.70)

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CAMPUS NEWS

(continued from front page)

made clear to Paquette that LAMPS would be moving at some point, despite his opposition to the idea. In a phone interview with Lambda, Silverton explained that there have been a number of external consultants that have been hired to investigate the space crisis and that upwards of 50% more space is needed to accommodate all the new faculty and students that have enrolled at Laurentian in the last few years. She mentioned that the double cohort has also added to the stress of the growth. Silverton also explained that the amount of space has not grown in proportion to the number of new students, and that this was due in large part to the access to capital funding. She stated that Laurentian missed out on the 'superbuild' that happened in Ontario a few years ago, and that expansion was entirely dependent on how much development money was coming into the university. While the situation is certainly not an ideal one, Silverton explained that this forces the administration to fit more groups and offices into the area that Laurentian currently has. To build more space, the ministry would need to invest more money into development as well as into support for mortgage payments and interest, and that universities are largely constricted by their operating budgets and have to do as much as they can with the space that they have available.

LAMPS members and volunteers have also expressed their disappointment at the request to move, as they have just completed a new children's room including a beautiful mural that was painted professionally and cost the organization upwards of \$1000. Paquette has stated that thus far he has received no offers of compensation from administration for the work that was done. Susan Silverton explained to Lambda that the entire corner of the Arts building is being reconstructed over the next 2 years. This rebuild began with the microcomputer centre, and will also be used to build and develop administrative offices as well as new student space for undergrad and graduate students. This is being integrated to help keep up with the new Masters programs that are being introduced at Laurentian, and Silverton is confident that the new corridor will support all the students and administration involved.

According to Paquette, LAMPS was informed on February 6th that a painter would be visiting A-127 the next day, and that the room needed to be cleaned out immediately. Paquette argued the request and, according to his statements, was "challenged to seek legal advice

and to go public with the matter". He in turn called a lawyer, and planned a press conference, to be held on February 8th. According to reports from LAMPS volunteers, a physical plant employee arrived at the office with a paint can on February 7th while Paquette was in Toronto at the Day of Action, but LAMPS employees and volunteers asked him to leave. Throughout this ordeal, Paquette believes that the administration was largely unsympathetic to his requests, despite his explanations that the current location of the office was far more accessible to the students that LAMPS represents than an office in the Parker building would be, especially in the summer when Paquette feels that there is a serious lack of presence of student support on campus. Paquette feels strongly that LAMPS will be restricted if they are moved to SCE232, as he feels that their current office is used as a drop-in centre as well as a comfortable work space for students who are on campus after hours and that the predominantly female volunteer base will be less comfortable working in the evenings in a room that he describes as having "only one door and no windows". In his press release, Paquette stated that "Decreasing the size of and moving this growing and vibrant association to an unknown, unused dead-end hallway will negatively impact the most vulnerable students on campus." In a discussion with Silverton, she pointed out that the room does indeed have windows, and that she is "very sympathetic to discussing the issues with the LAMPS board". She expressed support for the group and she feels strongly that a dialogue needs to be opened between the administration and LAMPS so



Alexandra Tayloy / LAMBDA

LAMPS President Richard Paquette held a press conference outside of the LAMPS office after it was announced that they were being forced to re-locate by administration. Paquette believes the university is taking resources away from students, using his closed office door to represent the alienation felt by students and other groups who are in need of accessible space.

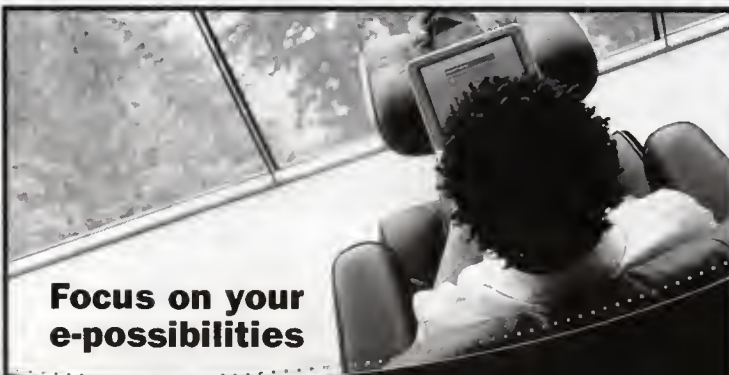
that discussions can begin not only about the space issue, but also about student demands and the needs of part time and mature students in general. She was clear that she believes that the mature and part-time students on campus are an important part of the school community and she hopes that a dialogue can be initiated to ensure that all voices are heard.

As for the decision-making, Silverton explained to Lambda that the placement of the groups and offices on campus are made by all the vice-presidents, with help from the financial administration. There is a space allocation group that makes decisions based around a set of rules that guide them. As for the legal right to the space, the university responded to Paquette's legal complaint and explained in a let-

ter dated February 13th that the University "endeavours to provide suitable locations to meet the needs of students" but that LAMPS has no legal right to the office that they currently locate. Silverton also explained to Lambda that most if not all of the student association on campus contributed with fees to the spaces that they currently hold in the Student Centre, and therefore they hold agreements with administration about their space. Unfortunately, LAMPS chose not to participate in these agreements when they were made, and there-

fore does not hold any specific space on campus. Silverton mentioned that from the information that she had received, LAMPS has been in 3 different places since the organization started, including at least a short amount of time in the space where they are currently being asked to move to.

As of February 12th, the administration has agreed to stop their pursuit of the space until after a meeting with the LAMPS council on March 1st.



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